## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PORG, JA, US

SUBJECT: GOJ CONCERN OVER US WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO

- 1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING UP AMBASSADOR TOGO'S JULY 14 MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL, GOJ EMBASSY DCM NISHIDA SAW DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALLEY (IO) ON JULY 18 TO DELIVER COPY OF LETTER DATED JULY 12 FROM LABOR MINISTER ISHIDA TO SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE IMPENDING US WITHDRAWAL FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION. MR. DALLEY INDICATED THAT THE RECORD SINCE OUR FILING OF THE WITHDRAWAL NOTICE 20 MONTHS AGO DID NOT FAVOR PROSPECTS FOR OUR CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN THE ILO BUT STRESSED NO USG DECISION HAD BEEN MADE. END SUMMARY.
- 2. GOJ EMBASSY DCM SEIYA NISHIDA SAW DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GEORGE DALLEY (IO) ON JULY 18 TO EXPRESS GOJ CONCERN OVER IMPENDING USG WITHDRAWAL FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGAN-IZATION. HE DELIVERED COPY OF LETTER FROM LABOR MINISTER ISHIDA TO SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL AND STRESSED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) US WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ILO COULD ACCELERATE THE

DECLINE IN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ILO AND OTHER US INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- (B) US WITHDRAWAL WOULD HAVE THE UNFAVORABLE EFFECT OF GIVING THE GROUP OF 77 MORE WEIGHT IN THE ILO;
- (C) IT MIGHT PRESAGE US WITHDRAWAL FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS UNESCO; AND
- (D) THE ELIMINATION OF US FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE ILO, AND ESPECIALLY UNESCO, WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THEIR FUTURE OPERATIONS.
- 3. MR. DALLEY INFORMED NISHIDA THE USG WAS CONSIDERING ALL FACTORS, ESPECIALLY THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY OUR FRIENDS--JAPAN, WEST EUROPE, AND CANADA, IN MAKING THE DECISION. HOWEVER, THE RECORD SINCE OUR FILING OF THE WITHDRAWAL NOTICE 20 MONTHS AGO DID NOT GIVE FAVORABLE PROSPECTS FOR OUR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE ILO. A MEETING OF THE CABINET LEVEL COMMITTEE (STATE, LABOR, AND COMMERCE) TO ASSESS THE SITUATION IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MID-AUGUST, AFTER WHICH THE FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT.
- 4. IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY FROM MR. NISHIDA, MR. DALLEY INFORMED HIM THAT THE USG WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE GOJ LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTICIPATE IN JULY 26 CONSULTATIONS SCHEDULED IN GENEVA BETWEEN THE US AND REPRESENTATIVES OF EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF THE ILO. THE USG EXPECTED TO CONSULT, NOT ON THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL, BUT ON THE FUTURE OF THE ILO AFTER THE US WITHDRAWS. OR IF THE US STAYS IN.

5. QUERIED AS TO WHETHER THE GOJ MIGHT WORK WITH OTHER NATIONS, ESPECIALLY ASIAN NATIONS, TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS EXISTING IN THE ILO, MR. NISHIDA NOTED THAT REPLIES FROM JAPANESE EMBASSIES, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO "EXPRESS CONCERN" TO KEY ASIAN COUNTRIES OVER THE POSSIBLE US WITHDRAWAL INDICATED THAT NO COUNTRY WAS PREPARED TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE TAKEN AT THE MOST RECENT ILO MEETING. HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE SUMMARY OF THESE RESPONSES. VANCE

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

## Message Attributes

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TAGS: ELAB, PORG, JA, US, XX, ILO

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